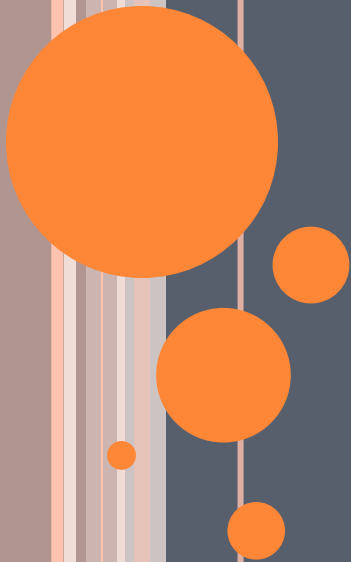




THE GREAT GATSBY

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN DREAM?



In his 1931 book *The Epic of America*, James Truslow Adams writes, “The American Dream is that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement.”



“The Declaration of Independence”
states, “WE hold these Truths to be
self-evident, that all Men are created
equal, that they are endowed by their
Creator with certain unalienable
Rights, that among these are Life,
Liberty, and the Pursuit of
Happiness...”



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WORLD WAR I AND AMERICA



Trench warfare in World War I

In 1915, the British passenger liner, *Lusitania*, was sunk by a German submarine.

Americans were outraged by this event because there were 128 Americans aboard the ship.

President Woodrow Wilson wanted a peaceful end to the war and kept American troops at home. That is, until 1917 when the Germans announced that their

submarines would sink any ship that approached Britain. Wilson declared that Americans would enter the war and restore peace to Europe.



LIBERTY BONDS

- Liberty bonds were sold to help finance the war.
- Connecticut citizens purchased the largest amount of liberty bonds in the Union – about \$437,000,000.



INDUSTRY

- Factories across the country produced items necessary for war. In Connecticut, the submarine base in Groton was established in 1917, Colt and Winchester made guns and ammunition, and the Waterbury Button Co. produced buttons for uniforms amongst other important contributions throughout the state.
- Women began working in factories, making things needed for the war effort.





In order to ensure that troops overseas had enough to eat, meatless days and sugarless days were instituted on the home front. Lawns were turned into Victory Gardens and used for growing vegetables.



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WOMEN AND THE WAR



When the men came home from the war, women weren't needed in the factories any longer. The men took their jobs back, and the women went back home to care for the homes, children, and families.



President Woodrow Wilson said,
“We have made partners of the
women of this war; shall we
admit them only to a partnership
of suffering and sacrifice and toil
and not a partnership of privilege
and right?



AMENDMENT XIX

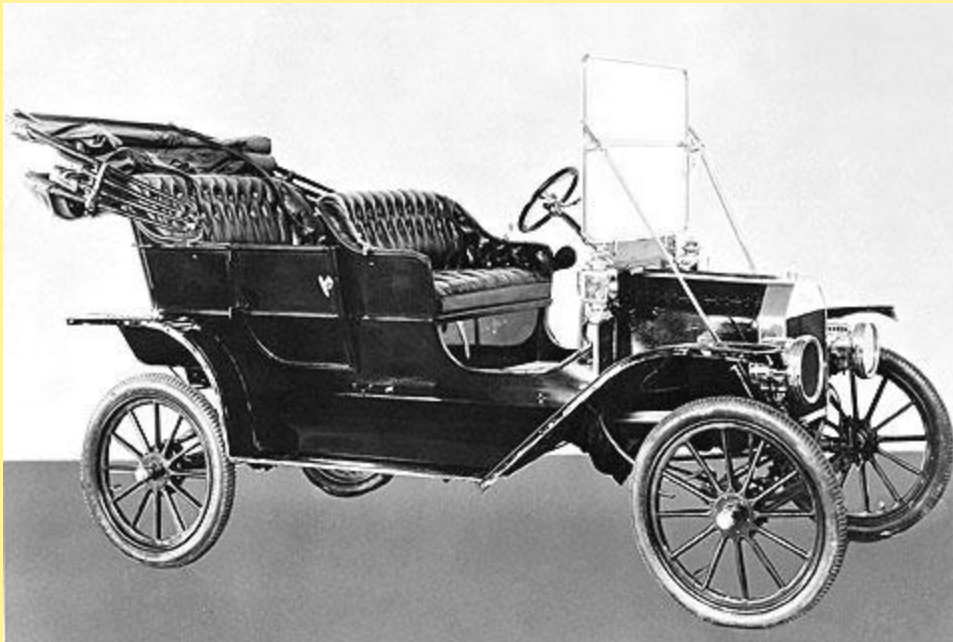
- The Nineteenth Amendment to The Constitution of the United States of America was ratified August 18, 1920. It states:
 - The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
 - Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.



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NEW TECHNOLOGY

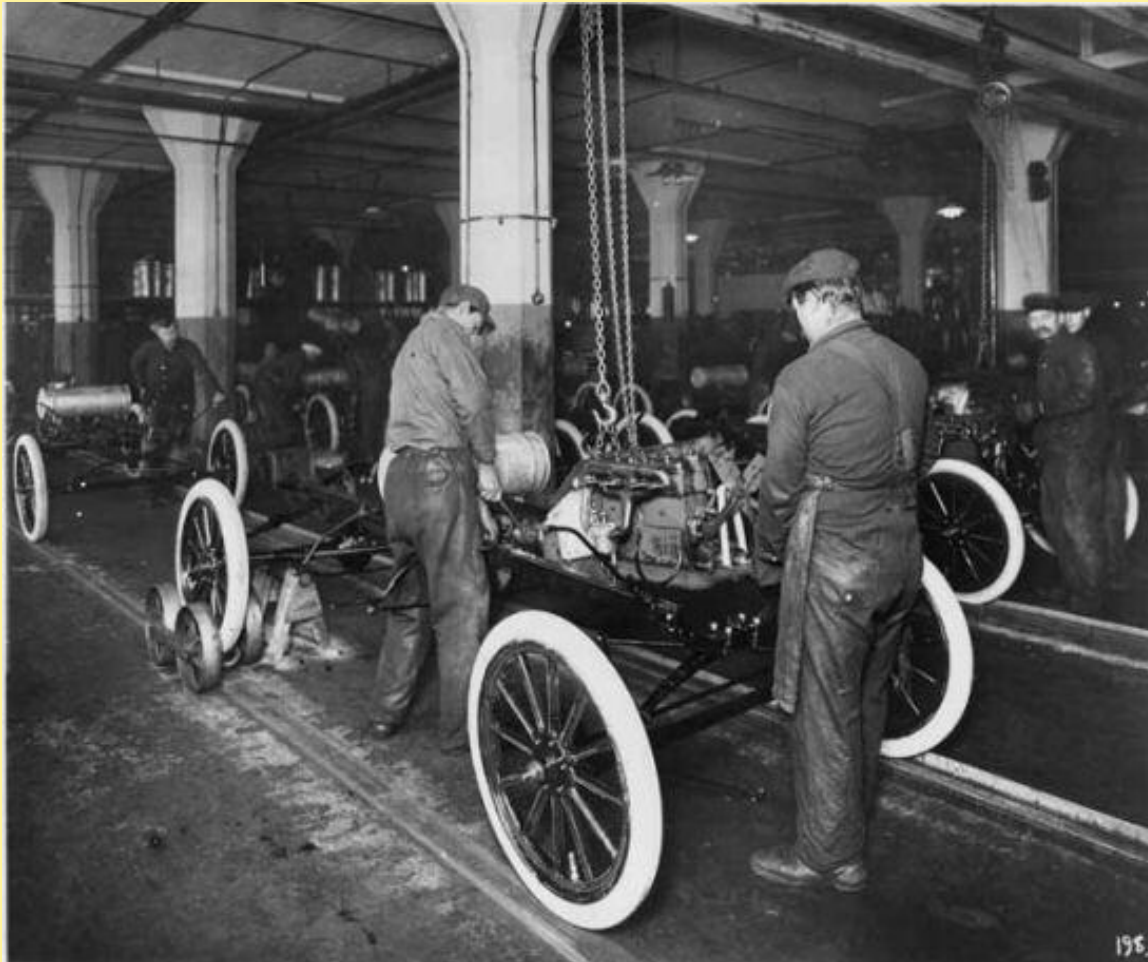
The Ford Model T - 1908



- Affordable for everyone to buy
- Easy to drive anywhere – two forward gears and a 20 horsepower engine
- No driver doors
- Easy to keep in repair



The Assembly Line



In order to keep up with the demand for the Model T, the Ford Motor Company devised a system where parts were added to the product in a sequential manner using a timed logistical pattern. Cars were produced at a much faster rate than when they were solely handmade because of this.



The Radio



Before televisions were a part of American households, the radio brought families together.

One could listen to everything from jazz to comedy shows, the news to variety shows, live events to dramas.

The radio was what kept families connected to what was happening in America and the rest of the world.



Movies



Even though the first film with sound was commercially created in 1923, it wasn't until 1930 that talking pictures replaced silent films in the main stream.

An average of 800 films were produced annually during the 1920s.

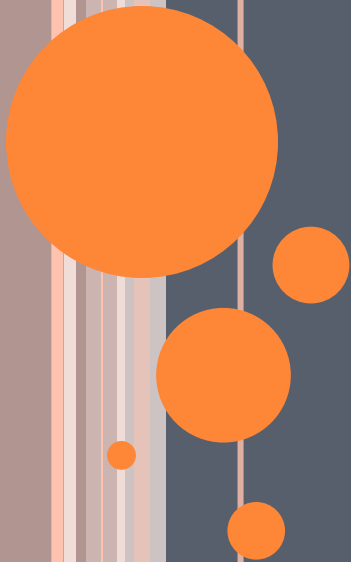
By 1927, 85% of movies produced in the United States occurred in or around Hollywood.

The first movie theaters were called Nickelodeons – “nickel” = five cents, and “Odeon” = Greek for a roofed-in theater.

Theaters eventually became extremely glamorous and palatial.



OTHER THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE 1920s



AMENDMENT XVIII

- The eighteenth amendment was ratified January 16, 1919. It was repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment, December 5, 1933
- Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.





HELP ME to keep Him
PURE



PLEASE
VOTE
"AGAINST THE SALE
OF LIQUORS"

A black and white photograph of a woman holding a young child. The woman is looking down at the child, and the child is looking towards the camera. The image is part of a larger poster or advertisement.

Flappers



Flappers did not truly emerge until 1926.

Flapper fashion embraced all things and styles modern.

A fashionable flapper had short sleek hair, a shorter than average shapeless shift dress, wore make up and applied it in public, smoked with a long cigarette holder, and exposed her limbs.

She epitomized the spirit of a reckless rebel who danced the nights away in the Jazz Age.



The Jazz Age



The Jazz Age was a musical movement that took place during the Roaring Twenties.

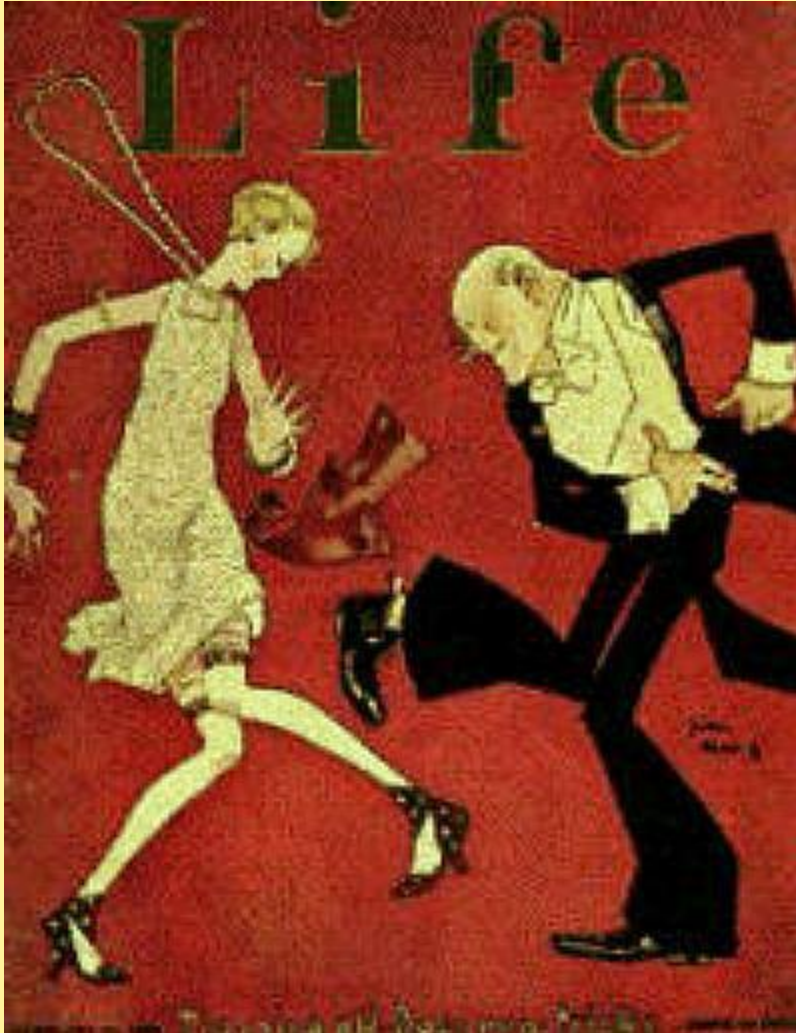
It was a time when musicians like Bessie Smith (left), Louis Armstrong, and big bands took over the airwaves.

It was a flamboyant era that took on the “anything goes” mindset.

This movement was a branch of the Harlem Renaissance, the rebirth of art, music, science, and other notable disciplines by African Americans.



Dancing



The dance that epitomizes the 1920's is the Charleston. It was introduced to the public in the Ziegfeld Follies of 1923 by Broadway musical "Running Wild", and became so popular that even today, it is still a symbol for the 1920s Jazz Age.

The Charleston is characterized by outward heel kicks combined with an up and down movement achieved by bending and straightening the knees in time to the music. Flappers with their knock knees, crossing hands, and flying beads danced the Charleston.

